

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 OPR-02 EB-11 RSR-01 /134 W

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R 131125Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7704

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION UN

USMISSION NATO

EUCOM

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1753

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS PFOR CY GR TU

SUBJECT: GOC ANNOUNCED DISCOVERY OF NEW COUP PLANS

SUMMARY: GOC CLAIMS ASSASSINATION PLOTS AND COUP
BY GRIVAS CAMP, INVOLVING NATIONAL GUARD UNITS.
GRIVASITS CLAIM GOC FABRICATIONS. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE
BUT DOUBT GOC STORY. END SUMMARY.

OVER WEEKEND GOC LAUNCHED MAJOR PRESS OFFENSIVE AGAINST
GRIVAS CAMP IN CONNECTION WITH CLAIM TO HAVE TAKEN FROM CAPTURED
GRIVAS DEPUTY STAVROU DOCUMENTS RE 2 PLOTS: 1) ANOTHER PLANNED
ASSASSINATION OF ARCHBISHOP AND SUBSEQUENT OCCUPATION OF
ARCHBISHOPRIC, AND 2) COORDINATED ISLAND WIDE COIP AGAINST
GOC (CODE NAME: APOLLO) WITH PARTICIPATION BY UNITS OF
NATIONAL GUARD. PIO RELEASED PICTURES WITH NOTATIONS AS
CORROBORATING EVIDENCE FIRST PLOT, BUT DECLINED PRODUCE
ANYTHING TO PROVE SECOND PLOT.

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2. APOLLO PLAN, AS DESCRIBED BY PIO, VERY DETAILED AND IN-

CLUDES: 1) ATTACKS AGAINST POLICE STATIONS AND MAJOR GOC INSTALLATIONS, 2) ROLE FOR "ALREADY ORGANIZED" NATIONAL GUARD UNITS WITH FULL MILITARY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING ARMORED VEHICLES, 3) CREATION REVOLUTIONARY GOVT TO PURGE ENEMIES OF STATE, 4) MAINTENANCE CURRENT GOC POLICY TOWARD SBA'S AND UNFICYP, AND 5) STRICT AVOIDANCE ANY MOVE AGAINST TURKISH TARGETS. PIO ADDED IN RESPONSE QUESTION RE TURKS STATEMENT THAT "TURKISH SOURCES" INDICATE THAT TURK FORCES ON ISLAND IN STATE OF ALERT, AND IN EVENT COUP AGAINST GOC, TURKS WOULD MOVE TO SEIZE KYRENIA-KORMAKITI DISTRICT. IN RESPONSE QUESTIONS PIO 1) REFUSED SAY WHETHER NATIONAL GUARD LEADERSHIP IMPLICATED IN COUP, 2) DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE (BUT DID NOT DENY) ANY LINK BETWEEN CONSPIRATORS AND TURKS, AND 3) SAID GOG AMB LAGACOS INFORMED PRIOR DEPARTURE FOR ATHENS SATURDAY A.M. (LATTER REGARD, PRESS REPORTS THAT GOC DIRECTOR INTELLIGENCE TOMBAZOS INFORMED LAGACOS AND GAVE HIM ENVELOPE WITH NAMES OF NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS INVOLVED, TOGETHER WITH REQUEST FROM ARCHBISHOP FOR THEIR RECALL.)

3. PRESS REACTION BOTH PLOTS PREDICTABLY SENSATIONAL. GOVT-ORIENTED "PHILELEVTHEROS" DENOUNCES TACIT ALLIANCE BETWEEN GRIVASITES AND TURKS AS LEADING TO COUP, PARTITION, AND EVENTUAL TURKEFICATION ENTIRE ISLAND. "ETHNIKI" CONSISTENTLY AND PREDICTABLY DISMISSES ALL STORIES AS FABRICATIONS. IN SIMILAR VEIN, EOKA-B LEAFLET SURFACED SATURDAY DENYING TRUTH IN ALL RECENT STORIES RE: AMBUSCADE AGAINST ARCHBISHOP, ATTACK ON PRESIDENTIAL COTTAGE IN TROODOS, BOMB THREAT AGAINST CBC, CAPTURE OF DOCUMENTS AND WEAPONS BY GOC FORCES. DOCUMENT DID NOT REFER TO APOLLO PLAN, POSSIBLY BECAUSE DRAFTED BEFORE PIO BRIEFING SATURDAY.

4. MEANWHILE, GRIVAS CAMP DELIVERED THROUGH "ETHNIKI" ANSWER TO "ELEVTHEROS KOSMOS" PROPOSAL. PAPER SAYS GRIVAS WILL NOT TURN DOWN MEETING TO DISCUSS CYPRUS PROBLEM BUT BELIEVES IT SUFFICIENT DISCUSS SOLUTION BASED ON "SELF-DETERMINATION"--I.E., "FULL ENOSIS" VS. "FULL INDEPENDENCE". (OTHER ARTICLES FROM GRIVAS SOURCES SUGGEST GENERAL NOT DISPOSED TO LEAVE ISLAND FOR THIS PURPOSE.) IN SPECIFICALLY REJECTING DOUBLE ENOSIS FORMULA, "ETHNIKI" ASSERTS ONLY "ECONOMIC EXCHANGES" ACCEPTABLE AS QUID FOR FULL ENOSIS QUO, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND THAT UK AND US WOULD HAVE PAY FOR THESE EXCHANGES ON BASIS PRIOR SINS AGAINST EOKA MOVEMENT AND ON BEHALF TURKS RESPECTIVELY.

5. IN OTHER MINOR EVENTS, SOME PRESS TODAY PLAY UP "LONDON OBSERVER" PIECE FILED FROM NICOSIA OVER WEEKEND TO EFFECT THAT GRIVAS HAS WORKED OUT PLAN FOR ENOSIS ENTAILING POSSIBLE CONSIDERABLE SACRIFICE BY GREEK CYPRIOT POPULATION.

TURK CYPRIOT PRESS PLAYING ALL STORIES AS STRAIGHT
NEWS WITHOUT COMMENT.

6. COMMENT: WE CANNOT RULE OUT EXISTENCE OF EITHER PLOT
BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO SHRED OF CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT
PIO CHARGES. PLOT WOULD REQUIRE MANPOWER AND PENETRATION
NATIONAL GUARD WHICH WE DOUBT GRIVASITES HAVE. HIGHLY
UNLIKELY THAT WHOLE "UNITS" OF NATIONAL GUARD HAVE BEEN OR-
GANIZED. SIMILAR AIR OF UNREALITY SURROUNDS PIO GLOSS RE
TURKISH MOVES IN CONJUNCTION APOLLO PLAN: AREA DESCRIBED
AS GOAL OF TURK FORCES REMOVED FROM MAJOR ENCLAVES AND OF
NO STRATEGIC VALUE IN ABSENCE MAJOR INVASION. ON BASIS
ABOVE, WE INCLINED REGARD THESE STORIES RE VARIOUS
GRIVAS PLOTS FOR ENOSIS AND AGAINST GOC AS PART DELIBERATE
CAMPAIGN PAINT GENERAL FURTHER INTO CORNER AND LAY FOUN-
DATION FOR SUBSEQUENT GOC MOVES AGAINST HIS PEOPLE OR AGAINST
THE MAN HIMSELF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NICOSI01753
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS MCCLLOSKEY
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730841/aaaabegm.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Oct-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOC ANNOUNCED DISCOVERY OF NEW COUP PLANS SUMMARY: GOC CLAIMS ASSASSINATION PLOTS AND COUP
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, CY, GR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005